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MEN WEAR CORSETS.

FACTORY IN NEW YORK KEPT BUSY MAKING THEM.

Cities Throughout the Union Place Large Orders - Reason for the Revival of the Custom.

Until quite recently the idea of men wearing corsets was regarded as bordering upon the humorous. Now, however, men's stays are looked upon as staples in many American cities, says the New York Press.

Their popularity has progressed to such an extent that one of the largest corset manufacturing concerns in this country has devoted a whole factory to the production of men's styles on 1905 men's models. This step was taken to make certain that the supply would be equal to the demand for Eastside delivery.

One firm regularly makes shipments of custom-made men's corsets to the principal cities throughout the United States. This house makes a specialty of corsets cut to individual measurements, and caters to this class of trade exclusively.

Army and navy officers are said to view the wearing of men's corsets with approval. More stays for men's wear are sold in Washington, D. C., daily than in any other municipality owing allegiance to Uncle Sam.

In Manhattan patrons of men's corsets include some of the most prominent leaders in society's younger set. It is claimed by the corset manufacturers that stays are essential in order to display the male figure to the best advantage.

When the military sack coat was introduced a few seasons ago the remark was frequently made in jest that such a style must be a forerunner of the men's corset. The cut of this coat was such that the garment fitted snugly at the waist line, giving a flare effect to the jacket.

Frock coats and English walking coats are now made to hug the body more closely at the waist line than has been the vogue in many years. Skirted overcoats are also responsible in some degree for the current boom in sales of men's corsets.

Waistcoat designers are busy on corset-shaped garment. This introduction is a resurrection of a pattern that attained some favor a quarter of a century ago.

The manufacturing clothing trade regards with alarm the evident strength placed by the average retail dealer on the value of men's corset stock. They maintain that in the event of men's stays permanently becoming general favorites such a condition would mean a series of radical changes in the making up of garments for stock distribution. In a word, it would become necessary to adopt new patterns and a new system of cutting.

The prices of men's corsets, like those for women, are governed by the quality of the fabric and the quantity of trimming employed, the range of retail prices running from three dollars for the ready-made article to as high as ten dollars for silk finished fin material of custom construction. Corset waistbands or belts can be bought over the counter from two dollars up, while the same articles made to special order cost as much as eight dollars each.

Proprietors of corset plants say that the present demand for men's stays is in a measure explained by man's growing realization of his deficiency in physical development. It thus appears that the corset furnishes a short cut to ideal physical proportions. The corset makers also insist that neither impropriety nor effeminacy is involved in the adoption by men of the corset as a conventional factor in dress.

Cabmen and Pigeons.

There is one spot in the heart of New York to which the pigeons flock daily with certainty of a square meal and kind treatment. There the oats are scattered for them every day, and the bystanders are so much interested in the birds that nobody is allowed to harm them. This spot is opposite the Grand Central station, where the cabmen wait for trade. So tame are the flocks of pigeons that gather there at midday that they walk between the wheels of a cab even when they are in motion, and have no fear of the feet of the horses. For years they have known that grain was awaiting them there. The hackmen would feel that had luck has come to the neighborhood if the birds should stay away. N. Y. Sun.

Where Eyesight Is Good. The best eyesight is possessed by those people whose lands are vast and barren, and where obstacles tending to shorten the sight are few. Esquimaux will detect a white fox in the snow at a great distance away, while the Arabs of the deserts of Africa have such extreme powers of vision that on the vast plains of the desert they will pick out objects invisible to the ordinary eye at ranges from one to ten miles distant. Among civilized people the Norwegians have better eyesight than most, if not all, others, as they more generally fulfill the necessary conditions. The reason why defective eyes are so much on the increase in this country and in America lies in too much study of books in early life and in badly-lighted rooms.

All He Left.

"Didn't Smugley leave anything at all?"

"Oh, yes; but it was dissipated immediately."

"You don't say? What was it?"

"A good reputation; but two widows presented themselves to claim it."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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ALCOHOL FROM POTATOES.

Heat, Light and Power May Be Generated from Spirit Obtained from Tubers.

After an investigation of preparations made in Germany to substitute alcohol for petroleum, Dr. W. Bayard Collins has summed up under the heading, "The Potato Versus the Standard Oil Company."

This somewhat startling title, says the Chicago Chronicle, is explained by the fact that it is hoped to use the potato in making alcohol for heat, light and power purposes as extensively as the beet is now used in the production of sugar. If these hopes are realized the potato has possibilities of an industrial revolution, in which it has not been suspected thus far.

Potato alcohol can be made by anyone with a simple "plant." It costs little or nothing except the original cost of the potatoes and it is said that the new motors which have been adapted for its use gave better results than are obtained from gasoline in the ordinary gasoline motors. It is nonexplosive and as it gives a powerful heat it is available for all purposes in the household for which oil, gas and electricity are now used.

With this heat it has almost no power of its own in giving light. It burns with a pale flame which "rays" very little. This until lately was an objection to its use in illuminating, which it seemed could not be overcome, but it goes for nothing new since the introduction of such inventions as the Welsbach "mantle," which converts heat into brilliant light by the radiance of the heated "mantle." It is said that through this principle the "potato light" has been made to develop from 250 to 1,000 candle power.

All this seems so much in the line of well-known facts that potato lighting and heating might have a revolutionary future, beginning at once but for two difficulties. The first of these is the present cost of potatoes, created by the supply cultivated for eating purposes only. Before potato lighting can be developed the supply must be developed for it specially, as beets have been for sugar production.

This difficulty might easily be removed, but the other is harder to deal with. The tax cost of all forms of alcohol is great. Their manufacture without the tax entails so little cost that in the case of potato alcohol every farmhouse might set up its own "heat, light and power plant" in the barn, but for the universal assumption that the alcohol thus produced would be used also as a beverage.

The alcohol produced from the potato is one of the most "poisonous" of the list and the new industry is hampered by the regulations of world's internal revenue systems, which control the production of alcohol in all its forms. To escape this in this country it is proposed to reduce the internal revenue tax to a low rate on potato and similar alcohols, which may be used for heat, light and power, and at the same time to prepare them so that they will be too nauseous for use as a beverage.

SPIRITUAL ELECTRICITY.

Not for Years Has the Social Atmosphere Been So Charged with It.

Not for many years has the social atmosphere been so charged with spiritual electricity. Wherever we turn, in polite centers or the barbarous extremities of the earth, among all peoples and under every variety of creed and condition, the same phenomena are manifest, writes Henry R. Elliot, in "The World-Wide Spiritual Awakening," in Century. As in a conflagration, the fire leaps from point to point, bursting out in a dozen distant spots at once. Now it is Australia and New Zealand that are chiefly affected; then amazing reports come from Korea; next, perhaps, are extraordinary returns from Los Angeles, Atlanta or Pittsburgh.

Just at present the center of interest is in Wales, where scenes are witnessed quite as thrilling as any in the history of revivals. All accounts agree that the Welsh revival is unique for spontaneity and fervor. Its leader, so far as it has any, is a young divinity student of 26. Evan Roberts by name, simple-hearted, sensible, ablaze with zeal. But the movement is far beyond any personality. Religion is the one topic of conversation. Meetings are constant and crowded. The converts are numbered by the tens of thousands, and the ethnic results are of so pronounced a sort as to make criticism difficult. It is the uniform testimony that the morals of whole communities have been transformed. A visitor describes a typical ride in a colliery train where he had been accustomed to meet blasphemy and filth; but "the men were as respectable in their demeanor and as clean in their talk as one could desire. Some carriages resounded with Christian song."

John Paul Jones' Body.

John Paul Jones once lived, for a couple of years of so, in Fredericksburg, Va. He got his commission and his chance for undying fame at Philadelphia. Both cities are now likely to be heard from as claimants for his body. But the grave and monument of John Paul Jones should be within sight of the dome of the capitol at Washington. He belongs to the United States of America.—Hartford Courant.

In the Minor League.

"Dere ain't nobody can teach Cully nothin' 'bout pitchin'."

"You bet dere ain't. He's learned de one great rule for puttin' de ball over de plate."

"What rule is dat, Soapy?"

"Make 'em hit 'em where dey ain't."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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